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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/091,691

03/05/2002

Bruce E. Lavigne

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7590

12/20/2005

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY

Intellectual Property Administration

P.O. Box 272400

Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

ABELSON, RONALD B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2666

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/091,691

Applicant(s)

LAVIGNE ET AL.

Examiner

Ronald Abelson

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 March 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 19-27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8 and 10-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Ullman (US 6,266,705).

Regarding claims 1 and 9, Ullman teaches a system for forwarding packets (fig. 1, col. 4 lines 34-37, fig. 3, col. 6 lines 19-20).

Ullman teaches a first node (fig. 3 box 125) for creating requests (fig. 3 box 216, three-bit quantity and separate 14-bit quantity, col. 5 line 67 - col. 6 line 9) having a plurality of filters for specifying packet forwarding criteria (fig. 3 box 216, if desired, two separate hashes could be employed, col. 5 line 67 - col. 6 line 9), and for specifying values for said filters based on a packet to be forwarded (maps the 64-bit entity into a 3 bit quantity and separate 14 bit quantity, col.

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5 line 67 - col. 6 line 6). The examiner corresponds the applicant's filters and filter values with the hashes and keys/quantities respectively of the reference. Note, the examiner maintains that by sending the three-bit quantity and separate 14-bit quantity to the lookup table (fig. 3 box 204) the first node (fig. 3 box 125) is "requesting" port information (fig. 3 box 204, 348, port index information stored in table 204 is accessed by 17-bit address, col. 5 lines 59-63, index identifying the port to which the frame is to be sent, col. 6 lines 44-56). Note, as shown above the 17-bit key may be comprise the 3 bit quantity and separate 14 bit quantity (col. 5 line 67 - col. 6 line 6).

Ullman teaches a second node (fig. 3 box 204) coupled to the first node and to a plurality of ports, wherein the second node comprises at least one table (fig. 3 box 204, col. 5 lines 59-63) having information for specifying which of the ports are to receive the packet based on said filter values, and wherein the second node determines which ports are to receive the packet based on the table information and the filter values (fig. 3 box 204, 348, port index information stored in table 204 is accessed by 17-bit address, col. 5 lines 59-63, index identifying the port to which the frame is to be sent, col. 6 lines 44-56).

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Note, as shown above the 17-bit key may be comprise the 3 bit quantity and separate 14 bit quantity (col. 5 line 67 - col. 6 line 6).

Regarding claim 9, in addition to the limitations previously addressed, Ullman teaches the first node sending the request to a second node (information stored in the lookup table is accessed by the 17-bit key, col. 6 lines 51-56) and forwarding the transmission to the port (identifying the port to which frame is to be sent, col. 6 lines 44-47). Note, as shown above the 17-bit key may be comprise the 3 bit quantity and separate 14 bit quantity (col. 5 line 67 - col. 6 line 6).

Allowable Subject Matter


3. Claims 19-27 are allowed.
4. Claims 2-8 and 10-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald Abelson whose telephone number is (571) 272-3165. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on (571) 272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Ronald Abelson
Examiner
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